

September 14th 1918.

My Dearest Wife:-

I didn't write to you yesterday dearest, and I really don't need a better excuse than the newspaper of that date can give you so will leave it all to you to judge. The thing we all have been expecting for some time has come. The first real big all American drive started day before yesterday and has literally swept the Germans off their feet in this sector. It was a wonderful success. Twelve to fifteen thousand Germans have been captured and the count is not yet finished. A large amount of territory which has been held by the Germans since 1914 has been retaken by Americans and they are still going. You have never in your life witnessed as much real and unalloyed joy as has been manifest by French and Americans alike around here. I can imagine what it is in the States.

The utmost optimism prevails all through France. The Germans are licked and are beginning to show signs of admitting it. Isn't it wonderful dear? I am so happy I don't know what to do and I can hardly wait for the newspapers to come. It rained quite a bit yesterday but has cleared up and is very bright today although rather cool. We have a nice fire in the stove and it is perfectly comfortable in the room. I think that we are really in more comfortable quarters now than we have been since we joined the Army. I have an

electric light right over the head of my bunk
for reading and so have the others. Today my bunk
is all torn down. I am running the blankets and
quilts through the steam sterilizer and I am going
to take a little anti-crook treatment. I haven't
told you that I have them but you can draw
your own conclusions. As soon as I finish this
letter I am going over to take a bath. We have
an excellent shower now and it is a real pleasure
to bathe.

I have had no mail from you for two or three
days and therefore I am expecting some today.
I can't tell you how glad I am to know that
you have a car and are enjoying it so much.
I think it was wonderful of Ted to buy it and I
want you to tell her that sometime I am going
to make up to her, all that she has done for
you and me. She has been a good girl and
deserves a lot of credit and if it does her any
good to know it she may know that I give
it to her in full measure.

I know how terribly hard on the babies the
heat must be this summer. It will be cooler as
this reaches you and your troubles in that way
will be nearly at an end. It is comforting

to feel that you are going to have no trouble with fuel this winter isn't it dear? It surely is a great source of comfort to me to know that you have it so splendidly provided for and I can't commend your thrift and forethought too highly. You have set me an example that I hope I can live up to when I return.

I go on duty at one this afternoon. We have been very busy (that is stating it mildly) and I expect we will have a lot of work this P. M. but it is what we are here for so we don't complain. Complain! I should say not! If the boys at the Front are doing what they are why shouldn't we work for them? It is all we can do to help win the war and it seems little enough. Sometimes though the work gets a little bit heavy and we get tired.

I had a letter from Jack the other day in which he expressed himself as being very well satisfied with his present assignment. I met an officer from his old regiment - the 26th Inf. - the other day and he knew Jack well. He said that Jack's efforts to get a transfer had made him somewhat unpopular with his outfit but that he personally liked him immensely. I don't see how anybody could help but like Jack - do you dear?

I have now lost most of my desire to be transferred back with him however because it is so much more interesting up here and I feel that I can do much more here than I could back there; but if I am sent anywhere from here, I'd rather go there with him. Rosy, Emma and I went downtown late last night to get the latest news, and played a few games of billiards afterwards. I have improved in my game quite a bit and made some really difficult shots last night.

Well love dear I must close and go for my bath. I love you dearest girl - I love you. Give my love and many kisses to Ted and the babies. With all my love to you sweetheart I am ever, your loving husband

A.B.

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